

Danes Hill School  
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## DANES HILL SCHOOL INFLUENZA PANDEMIC POLICY

### AIM

The health, welfare and education of the pupils at Danes Hill School is of paramount importance and our driving concern is to ensure the health and safety of the whole school community in the event of a 'flu pandemic.

The school will liaise closely with the Local Health Authority and the Health Protection Agency, along with the IAPS and the school's Medical Officer, following government advice and guidelines during a pandemic or potential pandemic. Parents will be notified via letter, the weekly newsletter and in particular the school website of any developments regarding the outbreak of a 'flu pandemic.

### COMMUNICATION

Clear lines of communication are crucial and parents are asked to keep the school updated with accurate and current contact details (mobile telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and home address details.)

The Head of Pastoral Care (Miss Jackie Taylor) will liaise between the School community and outside agencies to ensure parents are well informed.

### PROCEDURE

Should a child become ill at school with any of the 'flu symptoms described by the DHSSPS, - such as fever, cough or shortness of breath, - the School Nurse (Main School), or the Head of Bevendean (Bevendean site) will contact the parents/guardian and place the child in a supervised room away from other children until they are collected and taken home.

Pupils or staff with symptoms should stay at home.

Parents or staff are advised to telephone their GP or call NHS Direct on 0845 4647. They will always give advice on the next steps to take.

## **HEALTH EDUCATION**

The children are addressed in assemblies regarding safe ways to minimise the chance of infection. This information is reinforced by teachers, tutors and the School Nurse. The school's Medical Officer is also available to speak to the children about health and hygiene and he remains in close contact with the school.

Children are told to carry tissues and to discard the tissue after use. They are regularly reminded to wash their hands thoroughly with soap and hot water.

## **STRATEGIC CONTINGENCY PLAN**

In the event of the school being advised by the Health Authorities to close, the Headmaster and Chairman of the Governors will make the final decision to close and parents will be informed. Danes Hill will continue to teach until such a time as a decision is made.

The school will strive to make the best possible provision for all the children should the Children's Services Department advise the school to close. We would aim to provide education for the children at home, using remote learning materials.

For families without internet access, postal communication would be used.

Staff may be expected to continue working. This will be the Headmaster's decision.

## **POST-PANDEMIC MEASURES**

Depending on the severity and outcome of the pandemic the school will take appropriate measures to make up for lost teaching and learning time. The School's Medical Officer and the Head of Pastoral Care will coordinate counselling or any other services required by the school community.

JCT

Updated February 2017

**FULL date of policy: 26 January 2018**

Date of Policy renewal: 1 February 2019